

## April 26, 2017

The Honorable Robert Latta Chairman Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Janice Schakowsky Ranking Member Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection 2322A Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman and Ranking Member:

The American Motorcyclist Association applauds the Subcommittee on Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection for holding the hearing titled, "Outdoor Recreation: Vast Impact of the Great Outdoors." Responsible motorized recreation stimulates state and local economies with jobs and revenue.

Founded in 1924, the AMA is a 213,000-member nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

According to a report from Ohio University, motorized recreation and tourism in southeastern Ohio in 2008 generated nearly \$1.4 million in direct spending, more than \$1.8 million in total output, nearly \$660,000 in total labor income and 26.26 full- and part-time jobs.

A 2012 report by the Western Governors' Association found Americans spend \$256 billion on outdoor recreation in the U.S. West, employing 2.3 million people and generating \$31 billion in federal, state and local taxes.

The Outdoor Industry Association found that national spending on outdoor recreation totals \$887 billion annually. More specifically, a 2013 study by Southwick Associates estimated the economic impact of off-highway-vehicle recreation nationally to be \$120 billion.

A study released by the Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition in December 2016 shows that the estimated economic contribution of summer and winter OHV recreation to the State of Colorado was \$2.3 billion during the 2014-2015 season. That figure includes \$1.8 billion in total annual sales, direct or indirect support of nearly 17,000 jobs and \$671 million in labor income. The report also notes the recent increases in the popularity of motorized recreation in Colorado and expectations that it will continue to increase.

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Again, thank you for holding this important hearing. The AMA looks forward to working with you on all motorcycle-related issues before Congress.

Sincerely,

Wayne Allard

Wayne Allard Vice President, Government Relations